

LABOR DENOUNCES WAGE REDUCTIONS, WILL DEFY COURTS

Will Not Recognize or Abide by Their Terms, Be the Consequences What They May.

ONLY WAY TO RELIEF

Demands Law of Congress Exempting Unions From Treatment in Equity as Copartnerships.

TO RAISE PAY STANDARD

Warns Employers They Will Insist on Present Status and Fight for Better Conditions.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Enactment by Congress of a law declaring labor organizations are not copartnerships and "shall not be so treated in law or in equity," is demanded by organized labor in a declaration of principles adopted to-night by representatives of the national and international unions affiliated in the American Federation of Labor.

The declaration, which was approved after an all day conference here, at which Samuel Gompers, president of the federation, presided, also called for the "immediate restoration of exemption from, or the repeal of all anti-combination and so-called conspiracy laws."

Condemning the use of the injunction under present laws, the declaration asserted that the "only immediate course" through which relief could be obtained is a flat refusal on the part of labor to recognize or abide by the terms of injunctions which seek to prohibit the doing of acts which the workers have a lawful and guaranteed right to do.

"Labor realizes fully the consequences of such a course," it was added, "but in the defense of American freedom and of American institutions it is compelled to adopt this course, be the consequences what they may."

Organized labor in the declaration set forth at length the principles for which it stands, and calls upon the people of the United States to rally with labor "to the defense of our imperiled American institutions."

Warning to Employers.

Employers are warned in the declaration that labor "not only insists upon retaining the present standards of wages and working conditions but declares its solemn purpose to continue its struggle further to improve those standards."

52 Belgian Servant Girls Imported by Rich Woman

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BOSTON, Feb. 23.—Imported servant girls, fifty-two in number, arrived in this port to-day from Belgium on board the steamship Zeeland. They are headed for Chicago, where they will be taken in hand by a wealthy woman.

The girls are trained girls, and if they prove a success in this country large numbers of them will follow, it is stated.

The wages for which they will work are said to be much less than those now being paid to skilled servant girls in America, which have soared during and since the war to \$15 and higher a week, with "home" included.

The girls are all single and many are described as "beauties."

ASSEMBLY UPHOLDS MILLER ON TRANSIT

Test Vote, 92 to 40, on Transfer of Bill Indicates Support for Governor.

SURPRISE BY CITY MEN

16 Metropolitan Republicans Line Up—Tammany Forces a Showdown.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Albany, Feb. 23.

Ninety-two Assemblymen voted to-day on the first test of strength on the Governor's transit problem. Only forty lined up in the negative. This is accepted as fairly indicative of the support the Governor will get in the Assembly when his bill is presented for final passage.

The showdown came unexpectedly on a motion by Assemblyman Peter Hamill, Tammany member from New York, to discharge the Judiciary Committee from further handling the traction bill and referring the measure to the Railroad Committee.

The purpose was to get a line on the attitude of the Assembly. Tammany found out where it stood. "The big surprise of the vote was that sixteen New York city Republicans voted to uphold the Governor, for that was what the motion amounted to, while only fourteen Republicans from the metropolitan district were against the majority leaders."

The latter are counted as about the only loss the majority will sustain. The twenty-eight Democrats also can count on the three Socialist's votes.

May Widen Commission's Power.

Gov. Miller said this afternoon that the new transit commission may extend its authority to the Westchester county and Long Island transit companies tapping the city.

Provision is made in the bill that the commission may deal with corporations whose lines operate in part in the city, which, connected with lines operated wholly in the city. This would take in, under strict interpretation, several lines north of the city and on Long Island.

Steam railroads, such as the New York Central and the Long Island lines, are under the authority of the up-State commission.

The Governor said he had not considered who would be the spokesman for the administration at the hearing on the transit bill to oppose Senator Hiram Johnson.

PICKED FORCE OF DRUG AGENTS HERE FOR BIG ROUNDUP

Fifty Former Officers Discharged for New Ones, 'Tried and True.'

WARRANTS ARE READY

Federal Plans Bar Police in Quiet Move to Corral Rum Sellers.

KRAMER ANSWERS 'S O S'

Many Imported Rum Hunters Now Receiving Instructions for First Big Drive.

The long threatened, honest to goodness attempt on a big scale to make the enforcement of the Volstead act something more than a joke in the city of New York will start this week. Hundreds of search warrants have been issued, and trusted men from other cities have been brought in to serve them. The greatest of the prohibition drives has been quietly organized and is ready to be launched.

The police have not been asked to take any part in it. The reason given is that they are overburdened with their regular duties. Most of the enforcement agents who will be used are strangers to New York, brought here because of their record as moppers up elsewhere and because of the necessity of avoiding leaks which have nullified other raids.

After the Restaurants.

It is intended not only to make a concerted attack on saloons and speakeasies, but to pay special attention to so-called high class restaurants and cabarets where drinks can be had for from \$1.50 to \$2 apiece. These places have not been bothered much in the past. It is reported that evidence against them can no longer be ignored and that the restaurant proprietors must share the lot of the dive keeper if the enforcement agents get the evidence.

More than sixty agents already are in town receiving instructions and search warrants at enforcement headquarters, 56 West Twenty-seventh street. Daniel R. Chapin, chief enforcement officer here, is in charge of the preparations for the grand slam.

A good many of the imported rum hunters are from Boston. They were chosen because they have succeeded in making that centre dryer than most cities. A few men have been brought from Philadelphia.

No Federal officer would admit yesterday that anything unusual was in the wind, but the facts were learned elsewhere, including the fact of the issuance of search warrants. Specific evidence is required before such a warrant can be obtained. This evidence has been gathered in places where booze has been sold more or less openly for the last two months, the evidence having been secured by Mr. Chapin and his assistants.

Scores Lose Their Jobs.

In the past violators of the Volstead act have been tipped off when general raids were contemplated by Mr. Chapin's force. He has had to discharge between fifty and seventy-five employees because their conduct was not satisfactory. Some of them had rather large bank accounts and owned diamonds and automobiles on a yearly salary of \$1,750. It is reported that because of this situation and the depletion of his force he sent an "S O S" to Prohibition Commissioner Kramer in Washington saying that if New York was going to be cured of its daily dose of rum he must have dependable assistance from outside the city boundaries.

Evidently the call has been effective, for many strange faces have appeared at enforcement headquarters since last Saturday. The strangers have been tested for vigilance and have been studying the city's map with special reference to street corners where only one-half of one per cent. beer is supposed to be available.

SEVEN MEN ARE PENNED IN A BLAZING MINE

Heat and Gas Bar Rescuers From Illinois Workings.

DEQUIN, Ill., Feb. 23.—Seven men are believed to have lost their lives in a fire that has been raging since this afternoon in the Kathleen Mine at Dowell.

The fire started in a gallery a half mile from the shaft, imprisoning the workmen. Heat and gas prevent rescuers from getting near the fire.

Finds His "Body" Buried and Wife Wed Another

LAFAYETTE, Ga., Feb. 23.—Fred Williams, who went away to war in 1917, will return home in a few days to find his "body" buried here, his war insurance policy paid and his bride the wife of another.

This was the situation disclosed to-day when Mrs. Grace Robertson received a brief telegram from New York signed by her first husband, saying he had landed and was coming home as soon as possible. There was no explanation of his long silence.

The War Department reported Williams killed in action soon after he went to France, paid to his widow his insurance and then sent a soldier's body here as his. Williams's wife, whom he married a few months before he left, mourned his death for a while and then married a former sweetheart, Joseph Robertson.

JEWELLER SHOOTS TWO HOLDUP MEN

One Dying in Hospital and Other Nursing Wound in Secret.

FIRST FELLED IN STORE

Brooklyn Man Feigned Unconsciousness, Then Suddenly Opened Fire on Robbers.

For many years Irving E. Soloway, jeweller, with a shop at 125 Sands street, Brooklyn, has kept a loaded revolver in a safe behind his showcases. Not until yesterday did he have a good reason for trying it out. As a result of his first practice a man who described himself as Charles Madison, of 174 Sands street is dying in Holy Family Hospital, and a second man, who escaped, is believed to be nursing a flesh wound at least. Madison is charged with felonious assault and attempted robbery.

Soloway, who is middle aged, was standing in front of his store late in the afternoon when he noticed Madison and the other man approaching from across the Manhattan Bridge plaza. He didn't like their appearance so he stepped inside his door to be nearer the safe.

Madison and his companion entered the store. According to Soloway they did not proceed along the lines usually adopted by the present day thief. Instead of ordering him to put up his hands and surrender his money, he fired. The first bullet struck Madison in the chest and the second man ran into the store and tapped him on the head with the butt of his revolver. He received two glancing blows and was stunned momentarily, but succeeded in retaining presence of mind enough to fall to the floor and thus escape further attack.

Out of sight of the two holdup men Soloway crawled quickly around a turn in the showcase and squatted in front of the safe.

"Be careful," he heard one of the men say, "the old boy may not be out. He may be faking."

"Hell," said the other, "I hit him hard enough. Come on."

And they started toward the rear of the shop, where the safe is located, unaware that even at the moment Soloway's hand was aiming a revolver at them. They took just three steps when he fired. His bullet went wild and into the opening between two cases through which he was firing came a bullet from one of the bandits' revolvers.

Soloway, realizing his aim was bad and that his only hope lay in spraying bullets so rapidly that one of them must strike, emptied his gun. Madison staggered back with a hole through his left lung and the second man ran into the street and disappeared.

Policeman Charles McGovern of the Poplar street station, who had heard the shots, ran up just as Madison was falling to the sidewalk in front of the store. When the man saw him, McGovern said, he tried to raise an automatic, but was not strong enough and McGovern disarmed him.

At the hospital surgeons said Madison could not live.

HOOVER EXPECTED TO ACCEPT PLACE IN CABINET TO-DAY

Close Friend Says Decision Was Reached After Long Conference.

CLEAR UP OLD WORK

Announcement Expected to Be Made Soon by the President-Elect.

LETTER MAY BE ON WAY

Appointment of Denby for Navy and Davis for Labor Regarded as Certain.

Herbert Hoover will accept the invitation to become Secretary of the Department of Commerce in the Administration of President Harding.

That was the opinion expressed by a friend who talked with him last night after a day passed in serious consideration of the offer.

Mr. Hoover was waiting to hear from certain persons with whom he had assumed obligations in connection with relief work, and more particularly in connection with the national organization of engineers, formed for the purpose of decreasing industrial waste. He did not feel like abandoning this enterprise without first obtaining the approval of his associates.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, Mr. Hoover probably will send his acceptance to the President-elect to-day, it was said.

Hoover Consults Friends.

Throughout the day and last night Mr. Hoover steadfastly refused to say more than that he was giving the President-elect's offer the most earnest consideration. He received the advice of friends who visited his offices at 42 Broadway. Some urged that he decline the offer, but the majority sentiment, it was said, was to the effect that Mr. Hoover could not refuse to accept the opportunity for service. Telegrams bearing on the subject came from all parts of the country.

A part of the day was spent by Mr. Hoover with committees clearing up the financial drive of the European Relief Administration. All along it had been the intention to wind this up on March 1, so the activity yesterday was said to have no significance so far as Mr. Hoover's going into the Cabinet was concerned.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover dined with friends last night. At their home it was said he would not return until late and that he began when he was at the Cabinet before to-day at the earliest. It is believed Mr. Hoover will make no statement here until the President-elect has had a chance to make the news public in St. Augustine.

Harding Is Easing Up.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

St. Augustine, Feb. 23.—Warren G. Harding said to-day like a President-elect whose ante-office troubles were all over. He dispensed with his customary talk with the newspaper men on the plea that there was no news. He went to the links in the early afternoon and finished his round despite a drizzling rain that began when he was at the clubhouse. He was in the clubhouse at fourteenth hole. It was evident he had hit his cabinet problems and all such things behind him. To-night he worked on his inaugural address.

All efforts to get oral confirmation from Mr. Harding of Herbert Hoover's appointment as Secretary of Commerce failed.

The belief here is that Mr. Hoover gave to Mr. Harding his acceptance of the place. The guess is that he has written a letter and that Mr. Harding is awaiting its receipt before making formal announcement of the appointment.

At the hotel where he is staying, Mr. Harding's secretary said that he had not seen Mr. Hoover since Friday.

U. S. WILL NOT BE BOUND BY DECISION GIVING YAP ISLAND TO JAPAN, SAYS COLBY NOTE

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Feb. 23.—The United States Government, in Mr. Colby's note, draws attention of the League Council to its request made in the note to Lord Curzon dated November 20 that the projects of mandate intended for the Society of Nations, before they were submitted to the council, be communicated to the United States Government, and that it have precise indications of the principles on which the United States conditioned its approbation, and says:

"The United States Government has received the text of the mandate attributed to the Emperor of Japan over all former German islands situated in the Pacific Ocean north of the equator, which text was approved by the Council of the League December 17 in Geneva."

"The United States Government declares it has never given its consent that the island of Yap be included in territories subjected to the mandate of Japan."

"It recalls that it has already so informed the governments of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan, informing them at the same time that its reservation rested upon the opinion that Yap enters necessarily into any project or system of practical communication by cable in the Pacific, and that no power can limit or control its use."

"Consequently the United States Government is moved to declare respectfully that it cannot regard itself as bound by the terms of said mandate, and desires particularly that note be taken of its protest against the decision of the League Council of December 17 upon this question."

"At the same time it asks the council, whose action resulted evidently from an inexact representation of the facts, to submit the question to a new investigation, which an equitable solution requires."

FRISCO MAIL HERE IN 33 1-3 HOURS

Relayed by Air Across Continent at Average Speed of 81 Miles.

RECORD NIGHT FLYING

Time Is About Twice as Fast as Any Previous Postal Flight From Coast.

Seven fifty-pound pouches of mail which on Tuesday morning had been in San Francisco reached Mineola yesterday afternoon. The mail was carried by airplane 2,700 miles across the continent in thirty-three hours and twenty minutes, an average speed, including stops, of eighty-one miles an hour. This time is about twice as fast as mail ever has been carried from San Francisco by air before. Night flying made the record possible.

Ernest M. Allison, air mail pilot, and the last of the chain of relay fliers stretching across the continent, landed on the snow covered field with six of the pouches at 4:50 P. M. Fifteen minutes later William C. Hopson, another pilot with regular mail from Chicago, arrived with the seventh pouch. Allison had flown in three hours and thirty-one minutes the 427 miles from Cleveland. He made one stop of sixteen minutes at Bellefonte, Pa., for gasoline. His terrific speed was due to the fact that during most of the journey he flew in an east-bound sleet and snow storm.

The seven pouches of mail, with some others, left San Francisco at 4:30 A. M. Pacific time, Tuesday in two airplanes. It was carried to Reno, Nev., where two other pilots and planes joined it to Elko, Nev. There they descended for gasoline. In leaving this field one plane, piloted by Capt. William E. Lewis, fell to the ground in a tailspin, killing the pilot. The mail was loaded into another plane and a cool young pilot immediately continued the dash. It was this mail, of two lots leaving Mineola, and two leaving San Francisco, that finished in time.

Jack Knight of Cheyenne, Wyo., carried it through the night, steering by compass. At Omaha, the end of his division, a man was needed to get the mail to Chicago. Knight had never flown over that territory before, but he tore a map from the back of his coat and declared he would take a chance. He left at 1:50 A. M. and at 3:40 A. M. after covering more than 1,000 miles in a night, he set his ship down.

Chicago, after narrowly escaping death in a fog over Des Moines. Twenty minutes after Knight had finished his double bit J. O. Webster was in the air, bound for Cleveland. He reached the lake city at 12:52 P. M. Then Allison, who had flown the previous day to Cleveland with the west bound mail, took charge of the relay. He was left, one of the seven mail pouches was transferred to the De Havilland, which Hopson was flying, in order to make sure that some mail would reach this city before the time limit set, thirty-six hours, expired.

GOLD VEIN IS FOUND IN HEART OF DENVER

Prospectors Record Claim Running Under City Hall.

DENVER, Feb. 23.—Peter Noonan and William Wickham to-day recorded a gold claim in the heart of the city of Denver. In the ground beneath the territory containing the City Hall, the Union Station and a great part of the business district the men allege they have struck a rich lode of gold. The two men, who looked like typical old time prospectors, appeared at a window of the recorder's office and dumped the contents of two canvas sacks on the counter.

"We dug these out of lots in the heart of Denver," they explained, "and claim the ore bodies from which they came by right of discovery. We want the ore and our claims recorded."

Later they presented the proper papers.

LEAGUE PREPARES FIRM REPLY TO U.S. MANDATE PROTEST

Council in Secret Session Considers Request for New Examination of Yap Decision.

NOT BOUND BY TERMS

Response Will Intimate That Mesopotamian Mandate Is Open for American Suggestion.

SEEN AS TRAP TO HARDING

Regarded as Attempt to Bring U. S. Recognition of De Facto Status of the League.

By LAURENCE HILLS.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Feb. 23.

Frankly fearing that diplomatic tension might increase if comments leaked out on Secretary of State Colby's note sent yesterday to the president of the council of the League of Nations entering the protest of the United States against the mandates given Japan for the Pacific islands, including the island of Yap, the council closed its doors this afternoon, excluding all but council members and Chief Secretary Sir Eric Drummond while it considered the reply to be sent to Washington, providing the governments directly interested in the demands of the United States do not object.

The reply as envisaged by members of the secretariat to-night will be friendly but firm in tone, reminding the United States that the island of Yap mandate has already been awarded after approval by the Supreme Council and advising the Washington State Department that Great Britain and France, as the Powers most interested in Mesopotamian control, have agreed that this matter should not be determined at this session of the council and suggesting that the United States be given every opportunity for representation at the next session (in April) so as to supplement what is already known with reference to her views on Mesopotamian oil rights.

In fact, the note from Washington is considered by some persons close to the League of Nations delegates as presenting a cleverly designed trap to inveigle Mr. Harding, when he takes over the Government ten days hence, into active cooperation with the council of the League of Nations, thus tacitly giving the recognition of the Republican Administration to the de facto status of the League of Nations through discussions over the council table of points touching American foreign policies such as the Mesopotamian and Yap mandates.

New Examination Asked.

The Washington note, it is understood, does not ask definitely that the Yap mandate decision be revoked, but that a new examination be opened with the view of reaching an equitable solution, as the present decision "undoubtedly is based on an inexact interpretation of the facts." The United States Government, it is pointed out, has not given its consent to any resolution of the League of Nations Council regarding the island of Yap, "the internationalization of which as a cable station under a Class C mandate is not to be denied."

The United States delegates declare that it does not consider itself bound by the terms of the mandate.

The League of Nations Council to-night refused to give out the text of the note from Washington until advised from London whether the note of the State Department to Earl Curzon, British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, last November had been published in full in London, this note having composed the bulk of the present protest.

It is understood that the concern of the secret session of the council of the league was centered around whether the whole question of the Yap mandate should not immediately be referred to the supreme council with Washington's note attached, but Arthur J. Balfour, Lord President of the council of the British Cabinet and representing Great Britain at the League of Nations council, opposed this delaying the league's answer to Washington, although by taking directions from their respective Foreign Offices the members of the League of Nations council consider that they are yielding much of their official protest.

While the council is untidily in favor of the closest rapprochement possible, some members do not desire to enter into any definite arrangements with the outgoing Administration, but preferring to wait until the new President, as they believe that Mr. Harding will not lose any time in showing whether the American policy will embody a broad diplomacy.

Question T. S. Veto Right.

The island of Yap problem is considered by some as involving the question of the legality of all operations for the execution of the treaty and whether the United States has a right to impose a veto on everything the majority of the other nations already have ratified.

Legal experts are now studying this point which is declared by one neutral member as being the most vital of all so far as the future of the League of Nations is concerned, although Mr. Balfour and Secretary of State Curzon, French member of the Council, are said to be non-alike.

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